

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as indicated. A complete set of the claims is included below, reflecting added subject matter (*underlining*) and deleted subject matter (*strikethrough*), as well as the current status of each claim. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of using an email message to control a computer resource, comprising:

receiving an email message from a sender that originates at a portable computer;

recognizing a reserved command word within the email message;

determining whether a plurality of separate parts of the email message include a respective plurality of identifiable portions of a command to be carried out on an available computer resource based on the reserved command word wherein the reserved command word comprises a part of a subject portion of the email message; and

assembling a command for execution on the computer resource using the plurality of identifiable portions of the command in the plurality of separate parts of the email message.

2. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

receiving a result from the available computer resource; and

sending a reply email message communicating the result to the sender.

3. (Original) The method according to claim 2, wherein the computer resource comprises a computer database, the command comprises a database query and wherein the result comprises the result of the database query.

4. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the resource comprises a computer database and the command comprises a database query.

5. Canceled.

6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein determining comprises parsing the email message into parts defining the computer resource and the command.

7. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the email from the sender ~~originates~~ originating at the portable computer is a palmtop computer.

8. (Original) The method according to claim 1, carried out on a programmed processor protected by a firewall.

9. (Original) The method according to claim 8, wherein the programmed processor comprises a server providing an intralan resource within the firewall.

10. (Original) The method according to claim 1, carried out by executing a set of machine readable instructions stored on an electronic storage medium.

11. (Currently Amended) A method of using an email message to control a computer resource, comprising:

receiving an email message from a sender, the email message originating at a palmtop computer;

recognizing a reserved word within a subject portion of the email message
wherein the reserved command word comprises a part of a subject portion of the email message;

interpreting the email message as a command based on the reserved word to be carried out on an available computer resource comprising a computer database;

determining whether a plurality of separate parts of the email message include a respective plurality of identifiable portions that define the computer resource and the command;

assembling the plurality of identifiable portions in the plurality of separate parts of the email message as a database query for execution on the computer database;
receiving a result from the available computer database; and
sending a reply email message communicating the result to the sender.

12. (Previously Presented) A system that uses an email message to control a computer resource from a remote location, comprising:

a first programmed processor having an email program that receives an email message from a sender;

a program operating on the first programmed processor that:

recognizes a reserved command word within the email message wherein the reserved command word comprises a part of a subject portion of the email message;

determines whether a plurality of separate parts of the email message include a respective plurality of identifiable portions of a command to be carried out on an available computer resource based on the reserved command word; and

assembles a command for execution on the available computer resource using the plurality of identifiable portions of the command in the plurality of separate parts of the email message.

13. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the program further: receives a result from the available computer resource; and
sends a reply email message communicating the result to the sender.

14. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the computer resource comprises a computer database, the command comprises a database query and wherein the result comprises the result of the database query.

15. Canceled.

16. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 12, further comprising a palmtop computer wherein the email from the sender originates at the palmtop computer.

17. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 12, further comprising a second programmed processor wherein the email from the sender originates at the second programmed processor.

18. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 12, further comprising a firewall protecting the first programmed processor.

19. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the first programmed processor comprises a server providing an intralan resource within the firewall.

20. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the computer resource comprises a computer database and the command comprises a database query.

21. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of separate parts of the email message are separate lines of the email message.

22. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein the plurality of separate parts of the email message are separate lines of the email message.

23. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 12, wherein the plurality of separate parts of the email message are separate lines of the email message.